

JPRS 79867

15 January 1982

Latin America Report

No. 2432



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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No. 2432

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BRIEFS

INCREASED CRUDE SALES--Sales of crude made by the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation from January to November of this year increased by 5 percent in comparison with the same period last year. Revenue from such sales for the period were \$32,638,384 surpassing the 1980 figure by \$1,522,458. [PA181520 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Dec 81]

CSO: 3010/541

ANDEAN PARLIAMENT OPENS, ELECTS PRESIDENT

PA181833 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] The second period of sessions of the Andean Parliament has been inaugurated in Quito. (Raul Vaca Carvo), chairman of the Ecuadorean House of Representatives, was elected president. At the inauguration ceremony (Vaca Carvo) said:

[Begin recording] Several sectors generally interested in that Andean integration continued along solely technocratic and economic paths have criticized what they call the politization of the Andean group.

They are referring to the precedent-setting role which our countries maintained when opinions were a determining factor for the Nicaraguan process, the negotiation for the Panama Canal Treaty and the rejection of the militaristic policy in Bolivia and the expressed desire that the Bolivian people find democratic solutions. [applause]

Supporting the fullest existence of freedom, social justice and democracy in its broadest exercise of participation, constitutes one of the fundamental purposes of the Andean Parliament. Another is protecting the respect for human rights.

Therefore, I must fully support a politization which is in agreement with the permanent position of Ecuador, which never compromises on matters of principle.

I am certain that if the crisis and inactivity which has characterized the year 1981 had not existed, the Andean group would have maintained a very defined position in the case of El Salvador, whose people are bleeding to death while the countries of America look on. [applause]

Our permanent solidarity attitude goes together with our determination to fight for the increasing enforcement of the principles of self-determination and independence of our peoples so that we can avoid becoming involved in the designs of the struggle of the superpowers.

The Andean Parliament must view the process objectively. It must not be impressed by pessimistic laments or exaggerated [words indistinct]. There are sufficient

elements which allow us to look at the future optimistically, as long as parliaments, governments and peoples are prepared to give our share of action for a cause which we must consider a common one.

Almost everything unites us: the language, the race, the origin and the historic destiny. It is necessary to create a common front so that the present problems of the Third World will be recognized in their true dimension and that their solutions can be seen before the end of the present century. [End recording]

Hector Echeverry, from Colombia, the outgoing president of the Andean Parliament, said at the initial session:

[Begin recording] [apparently in progress] our message of solidarity with all those programs which benefit our peoples, in addition, Mr President, we also consider it indispensable to promote a development model which dispenses with individual plans [as heard]. It would be appropriate to hold a meeting of planning organizations chiefs to reach an agreement on bases which the governments could use to achieve similar results to stimulate and protect industry, facilitate trade, create Andean conscience and end the isolationism to which the great powers have subjected us and to permit us to struggle against the cultural and economic colonialism which we are experiencing.

President Hurtado, you are recognized among our peoples for your clear [words indistinct]. Therefore, we do not hesitate in asking this session, which will surely serve to achieve the change with social justice which you have proposed for Ecuador and which [words indistinct], the equality which we should promote, and above all the existence of the freedom and rights of individuals which we are obliged to defend every day with an iron republican will, must be our goal.

We want our chiefs of state to be the standard-bearers of the Bolivian principles until they become a definite part of our lives. In order to achieve this, it is necessary, first, to revise the by-laws of the Andean treaty in order to solve the impasse on its ratification caused by the Bolivian dictatorship. A majority and not unanimity should be the democratic golden rule to decide our problems.

In the second place, we must promote the actions required by the Cartagena agreement for its successful progress and, if necessary, amend it so that it can recover its good initial development and prevent its self-destruction. [End recording]

The present period of sessions, which will sit until next Tuesday, is attended by representatives from Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela and Ecuador. Spain and Panama are participating as observers together with delegates from the European Parliament and other international organizations.

CSO: 3010/545

FIDEL CASTRO COMMENTS ON REPORTED REMARKS OF PRESIDENT REAGAN

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Nov 81 p 6

[Article by Juan Marrero]

[Text] On the occasion of Red Sunday, in statements which he made to the Cuban press our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, commented on the statement of President Ronald Reagan that he had no plans to send North American soldiers anywhere in the world.

"Certainly," Fidel pointed out, "that could be a subtle statement, 'sending soldiers.' He can send Navy ships, can send aircraft, etc."

And everything seems to indicate that, in effect, the Reagan statement was very subtle.

Reagan's principal adviser, Edwin Meese, has just stated on CBS Television that the North American government presently excludes any "military intervention" in the Caribbean and in Central America, but he made clear that in that context he was speaking exclusively of "ground forces."

For the Yankee imperialists sending warships to machinegun the coasts of a Central American or Caribbean country or to establish a blockade does not constitute "military intervention."

How hypocritical, lying, demagogic, and shameless the Yankee imperialists are is evident in these statements made by Edwin Meese, a man very close to Reagan, so close that it is he who is considered to have the greatest executive powers in the White House, after the president.

Finally, the peoples of Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada have no recourse except to remain on the alert and prepared for their defense, since the Yankee imperialists have not abandoned their aggressive plans.

If they reach the point of carrying out such plans, as Fidel said, the only thing they will succeed in setting fire to is the meadow.

TV DIRECTOR COMMENTS ON 'DOCUMENTARY' ON THE CIA

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Nov 81 p 2

[Article by Gabriel Molina: "Campaign of Lies Against Cuba Seeks To Justify Possible North American Aggression"]

[Text] Allan Francovich, director of the documentary, "Los Negocios de la CIA" [The Business of the CIA], recently shown on Cuban television, stated to GRANMA that the present campaign of lies against Cuba seeks to justify possible North American aggression.

The profession of Francovich's father, mining engineer, made it inevitable that the Californian with thick glasses and sweeping moustache would become familiar with Latin America, since his father worked in countries such as Bolivia, Chile, and Peru, in isolated places with harsh living conditions, where he was educated until he reached the university level. He studied at the Sorbonne in Paris.

After filming "Chile en el Corazon" [Chile in the Heart], on Pablo Neruda, Francovich spent 5 years in directing "Los Negocios de la CIA." He admits he was first influenced by Philip Agee in his book, "Diario de la CIA" [CIA Diary], which he considers the most complete book written up to the present on the daily operations of the Agency. The picture had its first showing in 1980, at a film festival in Berlin, and it has been shown at 16 other festivals, the most recent in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The lessons contained in the film have been presented in a goodly number of movie theaters in Europe, especially at showings for workers and students, and it has been very well received.

The principal core of the program is composed of about 40 interviews which Francovich had with CIA men at all levels.

Visiting Cuba for a few days on his return from a trip to Nicaragua, Panama, and Costa Rica, he said that the threats against Cuba began as soon as they realized in the U.S. Government that the Cuban revolution was going to be a truly transforming, independent, and profound process of change.

He added that within the North American government there are people who realize that they do not have the power as in the past to carry out foreign interventions, but "others believe in the myth of invincibility, and in this lies the danger."

Francovich stated that the cause of these present military tensions and threats, so similar to those covered in his documentary, is the situation in Central America, for the Reagan government "realizes that it is losing the war in El Salvador."

"To justify a possible intervention, they have always falsely accused Cuba of being responsible for what is happening in Central America," he stated.

"That is what is behind the present accusations. In the film, some officers of the CIA relate how they paid the press to carry out these propaganda campaigns in Latin America, delivering stories and documents fabricated by them for distribution, which is very similar to the story about the 500 Cubans sent to fight in El Salvador," he indicated.

He pointed out that also similar are the campaigns carried out in the last few months to provoke disturbances in Jamaica, Costa Rica, and Colombia.

"Given the debts which the Seaga government owes to the CIA, this would be easy," he added with respect to the Jamaican case.

In his room in the Hotel Capri he told GRANMA that some people in the North American administration do not realize that the present situation is not like that in the past.

"The problem with Nicaragua and with Cuba is that you have substantial military forces and an organized militia. I have seen the mobilization here, and that reminds them of the price which they would have to pay. Furthermore, they would have to be concerned about what is happening in the Middle East, which is not only a strategic area, for if they lose the petroleum of that part of the world, the situation in Europe is going to change to a massive extent, which is very important."

Before ending the interview Francovich stated that it is necessary to remain on the alert, since the propaganda campaign in Latin America, which by its characteristics, is understood to have been organized by the CIA, is preparing the conditions for aggression.

"But here in Cuba there is much experience already. Therefore you find the people very calm. And very much on the alert," he concluded.

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CSO: 3010/534

MINREX ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON 'BRIGHT STAR' MANEUVERS, BARBADOS CRASH

Bright Star Exercise

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Nov 81 p 6

[Text] International public opinion is following with growing apprehension the development of "Bright Star," the belligerent military maneuvers being held in northeast Africa by the forces of the United States, Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman.

The official propaganda machine set up for this purpose is trying to present the exercises as a show of force directed chiefly at persuading hypothetical potential aggressors that the United States has the capacity and the will to respond quickly and efficiently to the aid of its allies in the area.

The people, however, know the real objectives of the operation, since the only power in the region which has been acting aggressively for more than 30 years is Israel itself, a strategic ally of Yankee imperialism, which has always been able to disguise and excuse the misdeeds of its protege, whether they be massacres in Lebanon, aggression against Iraq or even the recent intimidating incursion into Saudi territory, which is supposedly guarded by AWACS.

It is well to ask what is really the purpose of operation "Bright Star" in bringing together military troops of the United States with those of governments which traffic with the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, work for the dismemberment of their neighbors, clamor for imperialist protection or openly advocate the murder of statesmen they dislike.

There is sufficient reason to be basically suspicious that that constellation of forces is aiming directly at the hearts of progressive governments in the area, especially at the Libyan revolution.

Actually, for a long time the Libyan revolution has stirred up a ferocious hatred in Washington, where the implacable criticism by Libyan authorities of the Camp David betrayal, their support of the Palestinian cause and their support of other progressive governments against imperialist aggression have not been forgiven.

The unusual range of military materiel involved in this operation--which includes even the use of B-52's--and the recollection that a short while ago in the

Mediterranean, under the guise of military maneuvers, the U.S. Air Force shot down two Libyan planes in the Gulf of Sidra, offer further reasons which more than justify the concern over "Bright Star."

Our world has known too many tragic experiences not to be warned of the ominous consequences which can result from provocative and irresponsible acts such as those which apparently being planned under the guise of maneuvers which, like "Bright Star" or "Red-Ex," illustrate the imperialist zeal to achieve worldwide military domination from which it may impose its own conditions on the rest of humanity.

We urge all peace-loving peoples to join their voices and their actions in offering our militant solidarity to the Libyan people and to put an end to imperialist adventurism.

Havana, 18 November 1981

Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations

'Barbados Crime'

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 20 Nov 81 p 6

[Text] The Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations reports that on 13 November it received through the Venezuelan Embassy in Havana the "rogatories" for "orders to furnish better proof" requested by the Military Court of the Republic of Venezuela with reference to the trial of the perpetrators of the criminal sabotage of a Cubana de Aviacion aircraft which cost the lives of 73 persons in 1976.

In a communique dated 22 October 1981 the Foreign Ministry stated that it had not received as of that date any "petition" or official request in connection with that trial.

In order that responsibility for the delay in this trial may be clearly established for international public opinion, for Venezuelan public opinion and for the governments of the countries with which Cuba maintains normal relations, we must point out that the "petitions" in question appear to be dated at the Military Court in Venezuela on 15 June 1981, authenticated by the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry on 28 September 1981 and by the Venezuelan Embassy in Havana on 11 November 1981 and were delivered to the Cuban Foreign Ministry on 13 November with a note dated the previous day.

8735

CSO: 3010/530

GOMEZ FAR ACADEMY AIDS TRAINING OF MTT'S

Example for Others

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 13 Nov 81 p 2

[Text] Our grateful fatherland has already recorded in its history the inestimable assistance provided by the Revolutionary Armed [FAR] to the Territorial Militia Troops [MTT], an accomplishment which is also inscribed in the noteworthy annals of 25 years of service by this armed institution to the cause of its nation.

In his Central Report to the Second Congress of our Party, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro said: "A task of vital importance is being carried out, to which our Party, the state and the political and mass organizations must give the highest priority for the defense of the country because the establishment of the MTTs is a necessary complement to our defensive system; and they, together with the regular units and reserves will form the great popular army of our revolution."

The mission of organizing and preparing the new force in all sectors found in the FAR a suitable vehicle for materializing this plan in a short time: the experience, capability, material base and military expertise accumulated by this institution and its cadres guaranteed in advance the success of this revolutionary task.

An Example: the General Maximo Gomez FAR Academy

A prominent position in the training of the MTT is occupied by the highest center of superior military training, the General Maximo Gomez FAR Academy; and it was to this academy that we went to meet some of our comrades who are participants in this honorable task.

"Among the first measures adopted by the academy to materialize its cooperation in the training of the Territorial Militia Troops was the selection of several officers, professors of the center, to whom was entrusted the training of the first regiments of the capital with a view to the awarding of the Combat Flag on 16 April and their participation in the 1 May parade."

This statement was made by Lt Col Hector Chavez Sardinas, who said that the task was performed jointly with the military aides of the local organs of the People's Government.

He also said that at this stage, the militiamen had already had intensive prior training during which they had had classes in tactics, political instruction, marksmanship, regulations and infantry. The training of command cadres for the leadership of small units was also initiated.

"Those were days of intensive activity filled with emotion and revolutionary reaffirmation," said Lt Col Chavez Sardinas, who emphasized that in the short period from March to 1 May the members of this popular force, men and women, old and young people, after their study or work day, with renewed vigor participated in military training.

"They demonstrated assimilation and discipline," he said.

With revolutionary pride he recalled the day when, along with the General Staff of his unit, he received the Combat Flag from the Commander in Chief and how, on that occasion, the worker and combatant people had raised their rifles in defense of socialism, as on that historic 16 April, years earlier.

Commemoration of the Founding of the MNR

For Lt Col Marcos Lopez Carballosa, this mission recalled the days when he was a founder of the National Revolutionary Militias [MNR], by means of which he subsequently entered the FAR.

The dialogue turned to a review of the period from 1959 to 1960, when the people responded massively to the call for establishment of the MNR. Now as then, infantry exercises were conducted in the streets.

The firmness of purpose and will of the militiamen were put to the test; and many attitudes can be described as heroic, particularly on the part of those who, faced by the alternative of the work involved in training for the defense of the fatherland and long years of peaceful existence, opted for the former.

In this regard, Lopez Carballosa said that in his capacity as commander he was forced to require many old persons to stop the exercises, if only momentarily, to take a rest.

Lt Col Eduardo Felipe Verdecia, founder of the MNR, described the symbolic character of the fact that under no circumstance would men and women give up their rifles and that there were cases in which they were taken to the medical center with their weapon still on their shoulder or clutched to their breast.

With respect to youth, this officer of our FAR said, "As was to be expected, they were equal to the historical moment." They had a vanguard attitude, as they put all of their energy into the success of the mission entrusted to them.

He added, "This marvelous task which was proposed by our party's Second Congress was for us an extraordinary experience, as it was an example of the people's lofty revolutionary conscience, their willingness to prepare themselves for the defense of their gains and to struggle to the last drop of their blood."

Outstanding Work

The continual raising of the level of training and combat readiness of the MTT is a task which is unending and which has been one of the responsibilities of the Revolutionary Armed Forces from the very beginning.

The General Maximo Gomez FAR Academy, like the rest of the military institutions, is an eloquent example of the outstanding work of the collectives of professors and students, who in their spare time have dedicated themselves to training the MTT.

In this respect, Lt Col Eduardo Felipe Verdecia explained that during the second stage of training and instruction of this popular force, from June to August, the rest of the units formed in the capital received the prescribed training and took their oaths.

He emphasized that training personnel of the Academy engaged in this work, in spite of the fact that the institute was in the end-of-year stage of instruction with the consequent increased teaching workload, had not neglected the training of the MTT.

He said that on many occasions the professors, after completing their normal work-day, went from their classrooms to the headquarters of their respective units and from these they returned once again to the academy to teach their classes and continue their research work or such other tasks as were set forth in their curriculums.

When vacation time arrived, they, like their subordinates in the MTT, gave up part of their leave to devote themselves fully to the task set by the revolution, the party and Fidel.

Further Reportage

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 14 Nov 81 p 2

[Article by Roger R. Luis]

[Text] Another of the significant contributions of the General Maximo Gomez FAR Academy to the training of Territorial Militia Troops was the preparation of the regulations and other documents relating to the specific characteristics of this popular force.

Along with these standards manuals, curriculums for the different militiamen training courses and their command cadres were prepared. This volume of theoretical work, which was handled by specialists of recognized scientific-military prestige, was performed in a month of intensive voluntary work.

This institution, in the first stage of MTT training, also gave intensive coursed for officers who made up the command structures of the units, such as chiefs of general staffs, alternates for political, rearguard, engineering, armament and other activities.

From January to July, four similar cycles in those specialities were completed. There were also marksmanship, infantry, political instruction and tactical exercises.

Col Aroldo Castro Meza also told us that the students received their training thanks to the voluntary cooperation, during non-teaching hours, of over 100 officers and professors from various disciplines.

The Current Year of Instruction

"During the current year of instruction, every militiaman is scheduled to complete his program of combat training," Lt Col Hector Chavez said.

Also with regard to the new stage, Col Aroldo Castro Meza told us that in the General Maximo Gomez FAR Academy basic courses for the MTT would be taught.

The curriculum will consist of three basic areas: Social Sciences, General Tactical Training and General Instruction.

In the first of these basic areas, the students are taught Marxist-Leninist Philosophy, Political Economy, the History of the Cuban and International Labor Movement and Scientific Communism; General Tactical Training includes Fundamentals of Modern Combat and the solution of practical problems.

General Instruction includes classes in infantry, marksmanship and fire direction, together with technical, physical and other kinds of training.

Lt Col Chavez said that in other military training centers of the country and in the armies instruction programs are held for cadres of officers for the small units.

Our talk came to an end; other duties required the presence of these four officers of our glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces, who because of their outstanding participation in the training and instructing of Territorial Militia Troops received the "FAR Distinguished Service" award.

As the high point of this meeting, Lt Col Eduardo Felipe Verdecia, expressing the sentiments of his comrades, which is also the unanimous feeling of the FAR and the people, said, "We are ready to continue to perform each and every one of the tasks entrusted to us by our party and our commander in chief.

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CSO: 3010/342

SAOUMA: 'RIGHT TO EAT IS MOST BASIC HUMAN RIGHT'

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 30 Oct 81 p 67

[Interview with Edouard Saouma, director general of the FAO, by Nancy Lescaille, special service of PRENSA LATINA; place and date not given]

[Text] [Question] What were the reasons for and objectives of "World Food Day," and what impact do you feel it may have to the benefit of the millions of human beings now suffering from hunger and misery in the so-called Third World?

Saouma: With World Food Day, it is our intention to create greater public awareness of the seriousness of the world food situation and to promote such national and international initiatives as will serve to guarantee food for everyone.

Special activities are being organized in over 140 countries. In many developing countries, the initiatives are focused on the need for increasing food production and guaranteeing for agriculture the top priority in domestic affairs.

We are also emphasizing the need for increasing investments in agriculture in national budgets as well as in technical assistance and bilateral and multilateral aid programs.

Personally, I am optimistic and feel that we will make progress on the long road which leads to the guaranteeing to everyone the most basic of human rights: the right to eat.

PRENSA LATINA: We feel that there is no doubt about the important role which the FAO has been playing in recent years and about the impetus it has received under your supervision to attain the objectives for which it was founded. However, we know that the FAO could do much more for the developing countries than it is now doing.

What financial, human and technical resources will the FAO need to fully meet the demands of over 100 underdeveloped countries?

Saouma: The principal problem is not so much what we need here in the FAO as it is what do our member countries and their peoples need. It is from this viewpoint that we must consider the question of what the FAO needs to more effectively help them.

At the same time, we must be realistic. The food and agricultural needs of all the developing countries in the world are so great that no foreseeable increase in the financial, technical and human resources of a single organization could satisfy them.

Keeping these two points in mind, I would say that the most important thing for the FAO is that it must increase its capacity to maintain the much greater investments needed for the agriculture of the entire developing world. I would also like to have more financial and technical support given to our special action programs initiated since I took office in 1976--programs such as prevention of losses after harvest, promotion of the world's food security and development of better methods for handling fishing grounds in exclusive maritime economic zones.

I think that another way of increasing our resources would be to have a major part of food aid channeled multilaterally. In our world of today, an organization such as the FAO can usually satisfy needs more quickly and on a humanitarian rather than political basis. The strengthening of the FAO--which includes the strengthening of the emergency international food reserve for which it is responsible--is, therefore, vital.

PRENSA LATINA: With reference to the 21st FAO conference in November 1981, which is considered one of the most important in the history of the organization and particularly the topic of the budget for the 1981 biennium, how can the probable refusal of some industrialized countries to approve this budget because it contains a very modest increase be justified? How can this refusal be justified if we compare these modest resources with the millions of dollars needed to resolve the problem of hunger and the millions used to produce instruments of destruction? What impact will this have on the millions of human beings who are suffering from hunger and misery and are dreaming of a new international economic order and a more just life?

SAOUMA: Above all, I believe it important to point out that all countries of the FAO have indicated their total support for the objectives and programs of the organization. We are also satisfied with the fact that the immense majority of the governments support our budgetary proposals for the next 2-year period. It is true that there are a few--and important--industrialized countries which, because of their own economic difficulties, want the budget to be lower. However, given the fact that the FAO clearly cannot remain isolated from the consequences of world economic conditions, we firmly believe that our positive contribution to the fight against hunger and malnutrition should be more recognized in a world in which \$500 billion are spent annually on armaments, the equivalent of 20 times the amount spent on all official development aid. The increase in the FAO program for 1982-1983 would not be enough to even pay for a medium-size bomber. The entire budget would not even be enough to buy one-sixth of a nuclear submarine.

I hope that the few industrialized countries in question will find a way to join the great majority in a general consensus on the size of our budget for the next 2 years.

PRENSA LATINA: Is the so-called theory of "zero growth" promoted by the Geneva group compatible with the objectives of the FAO and with the benefits it provides and should provide to countries of the Third World?

Saouma: My answers to both questions is clearly no. Just consider these figures: in spite of all efforts being made to produce more food and distribute it more

adequately, in over 60 developing countries food production does not keep up with the population growth rate. Fifteen of the poorest countries are now producing less food than 10 years ago. From 1971 to 1980, the total increase in food production in the developing countries was 3.3 percent annually; however, the per capita increase in food was only 1.1 percent per year. At the end of this century, there will be 2 billion more mouths to feed in the world, 90 percent of them in developing countries. At present, from 400 to 500 million persons are tormented by the tragedy of hunger and malnutrition. It is pointless to say that it will be necessary for both the developing and developed countries to make an enormous effort to prevent these figures from increasing, not to mention reducing them. Under the circumstances, how can there be any thought of zero growth?

PRENSA LATINA: At the upcoming conference, a director general will be appointed for a new term beginning in 1982. We know that you are the only candidate, which bears witness to the work you have done during your term of office which ends this year. Can you tell us what the general outlines of your policy will be and what help and support you will need from the member states to maintain the growth and prestige of the FAO?

Saouma: I will attempt to implement the principal elements of a policy which calls for agriculture to have the priority it deserves in the modern world, particularly in the developing world. Considering the conditions and challenges of this decade, I recently outlined the elements of "a world food program" which has to be vigorously implemented to face up to today's challenge for a better tomorrow.

This program will benefit everyone. In short, its objectives should be to stimulate agricultural production, strengthen the security of food supplies, gather the necessary extra resources on behalf of the rural areas and liberalize access to the markets of the developed countries to guarantee stable and equitable export prices.

In the last 6 years, the FAO has given special attention to investment. Our investment center, in 1978-1980 alone, identified and prepared 62 projects for the least developed countries with an investment of about \$1.3 billion. We will follow that path without letup. Of course, much depends upon the willingness of the selfsame developing countries to give priority to agriculture and to request our advice. On the other hand, the developed countries should realize that a Third World whose agriculture is not in order is a potential threat to world peace. I recognize the financial restrictions facing the developed countries--which are considerable--but we are living in a world whose vulnerability is shared by all countries. That is the essential fact.

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CSO: 3010/560

MOTORIZED INFANTRY UNIT EXERCISE DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 12 Nov 81 pp 36-39

[Article by Jorge Luis Blanco: "With Impetus on the Offensive"]

[Text] The small motorized infantry unit moves forward. The engines of the modern and efficient armored vehicles roar to maximal power, and the treads, biting into the dry earth, raise dense columns of dust. The natural obstacles which constantly appear in their path cannot slow the impetus of the offensive.

Minutes earlier, in the rallying area, the commander had explained the details of the mission to be carried out, using a map. The pointer in his right hand moved from one side to the other with strict exactness. We were impressed by the fact that despite his youth, this officer revealed such firmness and flexibility in his confident handling of the command of this small unit. And, of course, it could not be otherwise, for the high level of the combat readiness of the troops presumes these important qualities. But despite our natural interest in talking with him, we could not, nor should we have, stolen the precious minutes from him that he had at this time to finalize each detail with his squadron leaders.

So we agreed to hold our interview later.

At an order, the soldiers climbed down from the armored vehicles and deployed in combat order. They advanced, the rifles, machine guns and antitank rocket launchers in hand. Behind them came the infantry support transport units.

On this day, this small motorized infantry unit did not really have a real enemy to combat, but it completed yet another stage in its training: tactics class, with the platoon on the offensive.

Technical training in any of its forms is the training base, and the study of all the military disciplines is subordinate to it. And it becomes even more important when carried out in the field. For this reason, each of the soldiers with whom you talk today will tell you that he has added to his training, that he is ready to carry out real combat missions when the situation requires.

"Through tactical training," one soldier, still sweating from his efforts, told us, "we learn to carry out combat activities under complex conditions, in varied terrain, day or night, cooperating with units from other branches and being trained to resolve each of the tasks which present themselves unexpectedly."

In situations as close as possible to the real ones which may develop on the battlefield, the small motorized infantry unit has increased its combat capacity, strengthening the skills and habits of each of the members of the unit in a general way. This can be seen directly in the qualification levels reached to date and in the excellent results achieved by this group in the special emulation in which its members are participating during the current training stage.

These men, their technology and weaponry are fully ready--we can categorically state this--to carry out any mission assigned them successfully. Faced with the threats of the all-powerful imperialist enemy, the response can only be increased combat readiness and training, so that when the moment comes, it will be possible to defend this Cuban people who "will live with their revolution or die with it, to the last man or woman," as our commander-in-chief said in his closing address at the Second CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] Congress.

And, naturally, the sweat of the long hours of training bears fruit.

Always on Target

In the assimilation by the members of this small motorized infantry unit of all the combat and political training subjects, the higher cultural level of its members becomes very obvious.

For example, Soldier Daniel Elegiga Fernandez, before entering the Revolutionary Armed Forces, was a student in oil geology at the Vitalio Acuna Technological School.

"My educational level," he told us, "helps me tremendously in assimilating the material in the theoretical and practical classes taught in a short time. I believe that this is important, because a soldier gains knowledge rapidly and can be more useful during his General Military Service. It is natural, for example, for a high school graduate to master ballistics more speedily than a comrade with only a sixth grade education. In this connection, the Revolutionary Armed Forces has made a substantial advance."

[Question] You mentioned ballistics....

[Answer] Yes. This is a subject which every infantryman must master, and I do not think it is easy. For example, we recently had theoretical classes on the firing phenomenon, the initial velocity and thrust of the projectile, as well as its perforating action; the recoil of the weapon, the choice and adjustment of the target and establishment of the point of aim when firing at fixed and moving targets, etc.

[Question] What are your duties in your squadron?

[Answer] I handle an antitank rocket launcher.

[Question] Do you know its combat capacity?

[Answer] Of course. It is used to take out tanks, self-propelled guns and other armored equipment, and it can also be used when the enemy is protected by fortifications.

[Question] How long have you been an antitank rocket launcher?

[Answer] Eight months.

[Question] What success have you had?

[Answer] I always hit the target. In addition to having a formidable weapon, I am properly trained.

[Question] For any situation?

[Answer] For any situation, as our commander-in-chief said in his most recent speech.

[Question] What do you think of the present U.S. administration?

[Answer] The administration, headed by Reagan, Bush and Haig, is fascist. Once again now they are waging a campaign of lies against our revolution--lies, of course, which no sensible person can believe. Only they are capable of wallowing in this filthy sea of falsehood.

[Question] We saw your name on the wall.

[Answer] Yes, I am the vanguard member of my platoon.

We did not want to ask him how he won this distinction, because his modesty was such that he would inevitably have blushed. At this moment which we thought was important to Soldier Daniel Elegiga, the journalist simply shook hands in farewell and said a few words.

[Question] We hope your name will stay on the wall.

[Answer] It is not so easy. There are other comrades--but one can try, he said as he walked off slowly with his rocket launcher firmly gripped in his hand.

Heart and Soul

Although it has been said over and over, continuing mention must be made of the decisive influence political and party work have on the strengthening of the combat capacity of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. This work takes on even greater importance in the field.

Praiseworthy work has been done in the unit the VERDE OLIVO reporters visited in the preparation and placement of graphic propaganda. Its content is mainly oriented toward the fulfillment of each of the planned tasks in combat and political training.

Socialist emulation, as the motive force behind the activities, contributes to encouraging collectivism, mutual aid and awareness on the part of the personnel, among other things.

One line along which the commanders, political bodies and party and UJC [Union of Communist Youth] organizations focus main attention is the diet of the personnel, hygiene, and the establishment of the most comfortable living conditions possible, given the resources available.

One could fill pages on the subject of the many forms of political and party work used to carry out the tasks facing this unit fully. Although a young officer, Lt Enrique Esquivel summarized it in a brief phrase: "Heart and Soul."

Armored Transport

Soldier Lorenzo Fors Cosme, who drives an armored carrier, is a man of few words and a sworn enemy of journalists. However, he agreed to be interviewed.

"You would be better off talking to my carrier," he said jokingly.

[Question] "Well, that's precisely what we want to talk about--your carrier," we told him, and immediately his expression sobered. He spoke but one word: "Yes?"

And we immediately took the offensive.

[Question] What do you think about your combat technology?

[Answer] It is the best.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] It is easily maneuvered, reaches great speeds, is difficult for the enemy to eliminate and has powerful and effective weaponry, not to mention the soldiers it carries. If the Yankees come up against it, they will see how good it is. Let them quit their bragging! We have a cure for that disease!

[Question] Would you rather drive a tank?

[Answer] No, a carrier.

[Question] Would you like a MIG?

[Answer] I told you, a carrier.

[Question] Do you drive it well?

[Answer] My comrades say so. Thanks to the driving practice, of course, and my knowledge of technology.

[Question] What knowledge?

[Answer] What they have taught me: The tactical-technical characteristics of the vehicle, how the fuel supply system of the engine works, its construction, the drill for dismantling, cleaning and replacing the filters...in a word, how to maintain my "weapon" so it will always be ready, for if it is in poor condition, I could never be a good driver, right?

[Question] What are you going to do now?

[Answer] Continue talking with you, right?

[Question] And after that?

[Answer] Oh, get back to my technical maintenance, precisely. As you know, we just got back from a field exercise a while ago and I have to strip my vehicle down and make it like new again.

[Question] Well, then, have you decided?

[Answer] What?

[Question] To be a tank driver or...

His only response was a rude word.

The Best Answer

And now we came to our meeting with the officer who had first caught our attention. He is Lt Ersilio Leyva, one of the many young men who have joined the Revolutionary Armed Forces through the Camilo Cienfuegos Military Vocational Schools.

He told us he studied at the Gen Antonio Maceo Revolutionary Armed Forces Interbranch School, and that he had headed this small motorized infantry unit, which had indeed achieved excellent results during its combat and political training in the field, for about a year.

[Question] Is the work of the commander a determining factor in this success?

[Answer] I would not say determining, because without the contribution of my subordinates, without their interest and dedication, it would be practically impossible to speak of success today. However, the commander is always the commander, logically, and the proper education and training of the troops depend on his training and the firmness with which he commands.

[Question] Speaking of troops, what is their attitude now that the U.S. imperialists are threatening our country again?

[Answer] The attitude of the men is manifested specifically in the enthusiasm and responsibility with which they are stepping up their training. They know that this is the best way of responding to the arrogance of the Yankees and above all, justifying the confidence placed by the people in their Revolutionary Armed Forces.

[Question] We know that classes in tactics, firing, engineering and topography are offered in the field. Is psychological training planned too?

[Answer] Naturally, in modern combat this is one of the things which must always be borne in mind. In order to train the personnel psychologically, situations comparable to those which may occur in combat are created. They are introduced in training practice to the various elements of tension, surprise, danger and risk, combined with carefully thought out and organized safety measures. In fact we have a class just now--if you want to come with us....

And we accepted the invitation. In the area marked off for the battle against the armored units, we again had an opportunity to admire the excellent training level achieved by these men, who do not rest nor will they while the imperialist enemy still exists.

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CSO: 3010/554

ESPIN RECALLS PAST VICTORIES, REAFFIRMS VIGILANCE

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 4 Dec 81 p 4

[Excerpts] (Speech given by Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo, during the principal ceremony of the 25th Anniversary of the Insurrectional Uprising in Santiago de Cuba, which was held in that city on 30 November 1981, "Year of the 20th Anniversary of Giron.")

Comrades of the Party's Central Committee and Provincial Committee,

Families of our fallen heroes,

Combatants of 30 November,

Combatants of the Rebel and Underground Army,

Citizens of Santiago:

On this historic site of the Moncada, where heroism prevailed over terror, where we jealously maintain a vibrant piece of the history of struggle of our people, we commemorate 30 November 1956, a glorious action during which a handful of young men entered the insurrectionist city dressed in olive drab to strike the forces of the tyrant in this lair. The leaders of the revolution was sailing toward the coasts of Cuba and his followers, headed by Frank Pais, were attempting to divert with their actions enemy troops which might try to prevent the landing, the landing of the "Granma" that would mark the birth of the Rebel Army and the beginning of the heroic action which gave our people this fine present.

The years will go by; and generations will pass through this rebel, heroic and hospitable city; however, their sons and daughters will never forget that historic day, 25 years ago, when the youth of Santiago, with their weapons in hand, took to the streets and demonstrated with their bravery that the seed planted at the Moncada and fertilized with the noble blood of those who sacrificed their lives there had grown with extraordinary rapidity in the people and was already an incipient tree capable of making the Batista dictatorship tremble in its foundations.

The Santiago uprising and the other actions taken that day in different parts of the country are part of the invaluable treasure which constitutes the revolutionary history of Cuba.

What we had there was a generation which, after a 10 March, had witnessed a 26 July that had permitted us to recognize the dignity and courage of Fidel, a "History Will Absolve Me" which showed us the magnitude and profundity of his revolutionary thoughts and plans, his capabilities as a leader to carry forward the colossal and necessary task of channeling our desires for justice, our rebelliousness still not totally cognizant of the scope of a revolution but certainly of our willingness to die for it.

The clear dawn of 30 November can never be erased from the memory of those of us who had the good fortune and honor of participating in those events.

I vividly remember each of the thoughts which were seething in my mind; the concern and anxiety for Fidel and his comrades who we thought were approaching our shores; the care I took to efficiently carry out the missions entrusted to me by Frank; and, above all, the intense emotion which overwhelmed us, a genuine euphoria motivated by our knowing that day we would be able to offer our lives for the fatherland. It was not possible then to imagine all that was to come later; our political training was only incipient, but this thought filled us with happiness.

Many of those here today were combatants on that 30 November; many here today were responsible for the underground struggle in the cities and who, at unceasing risk engaged in sabotage and acts of violence; distributed propaganda; collected money, weapons, ammunition, clothing and medicines for the Sierra. Their help was valuable to our Rebel Army, whose ranks were filled by many comrades from the underground sector.

It was the combatants of the Rebel Army who faced the privations of a hard and difficult life in the mountains and the dangers of battle with the forces of tyranny and who made up for the disadvantage in arms and men with boldness and bravery. Our combatants were victorious because they were the symbols of rebellion and the revolutionary intransigence of our people, because they had more than enough courage to fight for a just cause.

Every combatant in the mountain or in the underground earned the respect and consideration of our people. Many of them are anonymous heroes--who clearly and indelibly live in the hearts of the people--of the heroic action taken for our total independence.

"When our participates in a historic event such as the Revolution, nothing and no one is forgotten," Raul would say. The dead became battle flags and those who survived, with the attitude: "Duty should be done simply and naturally," had the sacred duty of holding high those flags in all battles and in all victories.

This the major contribution of all those here and in the rest of the country who are receiving their medal today, as just recognition of the services rendered to the Revolution: they have known how to hold those flags high all these years.

Many comrades died after 1 January in battles which our fatherland had to fight against American imperialism and the counterrevolution. Many gave up their lives heroically in other lands, applying the sacred principle of proletarian internationalism.

To all those who died during the war of liberation and in the battles won in these years of socialist construction, to all those who are now fighting in the trenches of defense, production and other sectors of the economic, political and social life of the country, which you represent, we offer today the undying remembrance, the gratitude of the Revolution, Party and government, of all our people who feel the pride of having you among their most beloved sons and daughters for having dedicated your lives to making a reality of the undertaking for which so many died.

Our Party takes satisfaction in recognizing the attitude you maintained not only during the war but on the road traveled up to now with revolutionary resoluteness. Our Party recognizes you to be the successors of those who died for the fatherland; you are the direct heirs of the fine history of our people's revolutionary struggles.

"Glory and victory are nothing more than symbols of doing one's duty," Marti used to say. Wherever there is talk of effort, sacrifices, of improving results and making amends for evil done, that is where our combatants of the Sierra and the underground will be.

You are the depository of the Party's confidence that in production and defense you will continue to carry the flags which were held high when the fatherland was everyone's grief.

To you, to all the people of Santiago, we bring the gratitude of our Party which exhorts you to follow the road taken, with the same tenacity, the same enthusiasm and the same spirit of sacrifice, in search of new victories for the fatherland, for socialism.

Ladies and gentlemen, comrades all, before continuing we should like to inform you that we are the bearers of a special award: Comrade Fidel, our commander in chief, asked us to give his fraternal greetings and warmest congratulations to the decorated combatants. He also asked us to make his excuses to you all for not being able to attend this ceremony, as was his wish, because matters which could not be put off prevented his doing so.

Fidel said with conviction that while yesteryear "Granma" ploughed through the seas of history, penetrated the Sierra and the plain and was victorious on 1 January 1959, today we are moving toward the construction of socialism, with a resolute warning to anyone attempting to take away from us that which has cost our people so much blood and sacrifice.

Ladies and gentlemen, comrades all:

The commitment you have made every 30 November to carry out the program for the provincial economy will contribute to making you worthy of being the hosts of the 30th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada barracks in 1983. A sustained effort will be required of every sector and area of the province to day after day attain greater efficiency and better results at work.

We know that progress is being made in the coffee harvest; that the sugar harvest was started with a decision that it be a superior harvest.

The struggle for profitability in all enterprises and strict fulfillment of all the economic plans should be priority objectives of your administrative offices and the workers and a subject for continuing analysis by political and trade union organizations.

We must continue our struggle to increase productivity; and, so that the increase will be higher than the average wage, we must eradicate violations of labor legislation.

Starting now, in every enterprise, in every establishment, in every trade union, we must examine thoroughly each and every one of the deficiencies now present and the measures which could eradicate them; we must objectively analyze the goals and commitments made with respect to 30 November 1982 and the 30th Anniversary of the Attack on the Moncada Barracks.

Ladies and gentlemen, comrades all:

We are all aware that we are living in tense and complex times. Our people are alert, combat-ready and prepared to answer any enemy aggression.

Threats by American Government officials do not frighten us; we are advancing victoriously and constructing socialism, in spite of them, in spite of the blockade, their attacks, their continuing efforts to hamper and stop our process. Our people who are building the future with their own hands, who are living in the most brilliant stage of their history, will spare no sacrifice, if it is a matter of defending their Revolution.

The government of the United States is implementing its warmongering policy without restraint; cannot endure the triumphant march of the Salvadoran revolutionary movement; talks hysterically of attacking Nicaragua which was liberated by the heroic struggle of the heirs of Sandino; disseminates false accusations against our country; and threatens us with aggressions of all kinds.

Let the imperialists stop and think before attacking a people who have written their history with noble blood and are ready to defend their sovereign soil so long as one of their sons or daughters is still standing!

Our hardy and worthy people have been forged through constant struggle and will never allow an inch of their land nor a single victory to be taken away from them. Maceo's legacy is being maintained in Santiago, in all Cubans; it is the legacy of Fidel, of his glorious Armed Forces which with the dawn of a new day and stronger than ever are approaching their 25th anniversary.

Let us repeat with the force of a hurricane in the ear of those who are trying to attack us: "...the people of Cuba will live with their Revolution or will die with it to the last man and woman." We will not allow the enemy to set foot on this land which has been washed in the blood of Abel, Frank and all the heroes of the fatherland who will live and fight eternally alongside their people.

This Revolution is victoriously and irreversibly marching forward and daily is evoking the glorious epics of the fatherland, from the separatist actions to the brilliant days of the Moncada, 30 November, the "Granma," the Sierra, underground, and Giron; this Revolution which will never be defeated!

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Honor and glory to the heroes of the fatherland!

Honor and glory to each and every one of those who died for the Revolution!

Long Live our Fatherland!

Long life Fidel!

Fatherland or death! We will be victorious!

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CSO: 3010/342

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IN VIANA, ANGOLA DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 12 Nov 81 pp 40-43

[Article by Erasmo Terrero: "Cuban Builders in Viana"]

[Text] We arrived at the worksites in the middle of the morning and our first impression was of the labor enthusiasm of the Cuban internationals, who are building a new town in the Viana area, about 20 km southeast of the Angolan capital.

The 20 buildings of the Luwanda-1 and E-15 M (improved) type, with 400 apartments, are of great importance to the region, we were told by Jose A. Ramos, the Cuban Foreign Constructions Enterprise official in charge of housing contracts in Luwanda.

This official, who accompanied us on our tour, explained that Viana is the main Angolan industrial center. Its construction began during the Portuguese colonial era and now--following the rebuilding of the factories shut down by two liberation wars--its productive capacity is being expanded.

He said that the municipality has an automobile assembly plant and installations in the chemicals--mainly plastics--and energy industry sectors, as well as for the production of parts for the electrical and textile industries, among others.

The growth of this industrial zone, Ramos added, logically entailed an increased need for manpower, currently being obtained from Luwanda, Caxito and various "kimbos" (hamlets) in the region, with the resulting problems in transporting the personnel.

The Angolan authorities therefore decided to develop new housing capacities through the building of this small 20-block town, as an initial step in settling the working population here.

The brigade of Cuban international builders includes more than 200 workers. The first 13 buildings, containing 260 apartments, were delivered on 30 May.

This commitment represented substantial overfulfillment of the time specifications in the contracts, but the leaders and technicians of the Viana Housing Group Brigade (the official name of the contingent) have convincing overfulfillment figures to show that this group will succeed in delivering the other seven buildings as a salute to the anniversary of the winning of its independence by the People's Republic of Angola.

The brigade included 89 masons, 9 plumbers, 14 electricians, 8 metal worker, 18 carpenters, 19 painters, a dozen stonecutters and more than 20 machine operators, among other.

A unit like this which doubles the average monthly production of 1,300 pesos per man, some of whom triple the quality norms, can achieve real labor feats.

At the worksite in Viana we saw masons achieving a daily average of 90 square meters of wall finished and pointed and carpenters hanging 60 doors a day (the norm is 5), to mention only two examples. We met workers 28 years old who have already completed construction missions in Vietnam, others who, as combatants, made their internationalist contribution in Algeria, Guinea and finally Angola, where they subsequently decided voluntarily to stay on as builders.

We also saw veterans who worked in the food sector in Cuba during the capitalist era and who are now contributing all of their knowledge to the building of housing for the Angolan people, and leaders who had worked previously in Nigeria and Tanzania and who are now contributing their experience in this region of Angola.

The brigade has four specialized technicians who are directed by an architect who works at the site. Together with the more skilled workers, they have resolved various technical problems.

One of the achievements of the Viana Housing Group Brigade is the additional construction of the prefabricated components themselves, including the staircases and the attic panels.

They have also introduced such innovations as a machine to screen sand, with which one operator can do the work of 20 men.

However, not everything has gone like clockwork. In the first quarter of this year, due to a breakdown at the Angolan cement factory which supplies the Viana group, the execution of the project fell a month behind.

In view of this difficulty, the various brigade teams stepped up their efforts to complete the most nearly finished buildings and then in April they put in thousands of hours of additional work. This enabled them to make up 95 percent of the time lost during that month.

The 20 buildings currently under construction in Viana are valued at 6 million pesos and the urban development of the corresponding area comes to another 4 million, making a total of 10 million pesos in value which will be produced by an average of 220 construction workers, with an average yield of 1.8 apartments each, in 22 months, representing productivity of 4,600 pesos per month.

Of the members of the brigade, 87 percent are young people under 30, and of these 56 are members of the Union of Communist Youth. Together with the 50-some party members, they constitute a forceful political vanguard.

The visit paid to the worksites by a number of Angolan leaders, including the Angolan housing secretary, Lorenzo Ferreira; the president of the People's Assembly (national), Bernardo de Souza; the minister of energy, Lt Col Pedro de Castro Van Dunem; and the

coordination secretary, Paulino Pinto Joao, who praised the quality of the buildings highly, served as a great encouragement for the brigade.

The Angolan authorities have the highest regard for the work of other Cuban construction brigades here. Outstanding among their achievements are the installations at the 4 February Airport in Kifangondo, the Eastern Dams, the Camilitos projects in Huambo, and others, in which the Cuban workers distinguished themselves by their internationalist spirit.

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CSO: 3010/554

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 26 Nov 81 pp 36-39

[Article by Mario Rodriguez]

[Text] After several days of intensive preparation, the small communications unit is ready to carry out an important activity in the training program.

This was the first day of field training, after many days devoted to the establishment of the conditions necessary for life in the field.

Through the combined efforts of everyone, the team had changed its way of doing things. Dozens of sites for the giving of instruction and daily activities had contributed significantly to this change.

When we arrived at the small unit, something else we noted was the spirit of the combatants and their enthusiasm to get started as soon as possible with their field training, in line with the objectives set by our commander in chief of never neglecting our defenses.

Something else we observed was the readiness of every member of the unit to make the instruction more than a requirement in the consolidation of skills: a primary objective and reason for being of all its members.

In this ambience of effort and dedication, what stands out is the great influence of socialist emulation, which they have been able to organize very successfully, with account taken of its objectives and principles.

It is for this reason that now, as everyone is making ready to proceed to the site where the tactical training class will be held on the subject of setting up and taking down a radio station, they do so with the firm purpose of perfecting their skills so that they will be better prepared and more skilled than ever.

"The purpose of this class," the leader, 1st Lt Raimundo Gonzalez Crespo, tells us, "is to permit the consolidation of the habit patterns and capabilities of our personnel and also to contribute to the perfecting of the combat readiness of the entire unit.

"Every combatant, motivated by socialist emulation and the statements made by our commander in chief, has adopted the firm objective of making the class a very profitable part of the process of consolidating what he has learned."

After checking over final details, the team is ready for the class exercise.

The roar of the engines tells us that the trip to the designated training site will begin very shortly.

Shortly after the order is given, the teams in their respective vehicles move off in the direction of the training area.

The trip takes place over hills and fields and is also an important and planned aspect of the class objectives. This will provide good training for the drivers, who play an important role in the effective completion of the mission.

After surmounting several obstacles constituted by the terrain itself, the teams arrive at the designated site. The class begins.

The leader emphasizes that the setting up and taking down of stations is a basic part of the special tactical training exercise and permits the participants to acquire skills in the fulfillment of this important mission, without which the rapid and precise establishment of communications would be impossible.

"The mission of this small unit," the leader explains, "is the establishment of communications with a communicator who is located on an azimuth of 25 degrees."

S3C Gabino Diaz Almora describes the mission to his men when we reach the site where their dismantled radio station is located.

After listening to their sergeant's instructions, members of the team, very quickly and skillfully, begin to "hoist" the antenna masts.

Minutes later we talked with Sergeant Third Class Diaz Almora who told us that for him and his team field training is a basic task.

"I do not believe that what I am teaching is just an exercise," he tells us. In reality each of us is aware that without training it would be impossible to guarantee the readiness of our personnel to carry out the various missions which may arise in a combat situation.

"Of course, this instruction task has special characteristics, in light of the continuing threats of the imperialists. That is why my men, with the same readiness as in a time of war, are prepared to demonstrate that communications will not fail in their combat position."

"What about emulation?"

"Here everyone emulates with his heart set on what he is doing. Individually, we have made commitments that all of us without exception are trying to carry out to the fullest extent.

"I feel that this is a proper way to commemorate the upcoming 25th anniversary of our FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] and to show our enemies that we are more prepared than ever."

"We have been told that the team's work..."

"Look, this team operates like one man. Its efforts and dedication to the completion of every task has earned for it well deserved praise in the rest of the unit, as it has repeatedly held an outstanding position as regards socialist emulation.

"However, I want you to know that we are not satisfied with this. My comrades and I are prepared to continue to achieve ever greater successes; and I feel that we will do so because, as they say: 'We are of like mind disposed.'

"Personally, it is up to me to ensure the fulfillment of our emulative commitments; and when a problem arises, we take the steps needed to eradicate it. I want you to know, moreover, that this is a 'Fatherland or Death' team."

As we take a look in the direction of the stations, an involuntary question comes to our mind. What would modern combat be like without the use of communications equipment? How would the leadership of troops be accomplished, as they often operate great distances away, without communications?

Gradually, the antennas, which are several feet tall, rise toward the blue skies. By means of these antennas, messages will be sent to the different communicators. This will assure troop control.

A comment by the class leader who is close to us brings us out of our reverie.

"They have completed one of the most difficult parts of the exercise," he tells us.

"And what was that?" we ask.

"Setting up the antennas. Not only must they put up the antennas, which takes considerable skill, but they must also orient them properly.

"If the antennas are not oriented properly, this could cause problems in the establishment of communications and also could reduce the possibilities of making full use of our equipment."

Minutes later, we watch the team connect the power supply to the equipment. Now all that remains is to establish communications with the communicators, to which end it is necessary to select the frequency designated beforehand.

Later, the team tunes the telephone and telegraph channels and turns these over. With that, the setting up of the station and its preparation for operations are completed.

"My men have responded quite well, considering the threats which imperialism is making against us in its rage," we are told by Maj Domingo Garcia Sanchez.

"During the meeting we held in support of our commander in chief's statements, my men committed ourselves to do their best in the class you have just observed.

"I feel that the men have kept their word. The time standards were strictly met, and the operation had positive results.

"Apart from the combative spirit which prevails among the men, what factor or factors do you feel have influenced the attainment of these results?"

"I feel that one of the basic elements is the knowledge every senior or junior officer has of his subordinates.

"You must remember that a soldier who has recently joined our units is still attached to his family and to the environment in which he grew up. That makes his entry into the FAR a totally new experience for him.

"To ensure his adaptation to military life as soon as possible, we must get to know him in depth and try to incorporate him into the unit in a definitive way, that is, make him feel a part of it."

Major Sanchez went on to explain to us that experience has shown that this incorporation process must be carried out patiently and on solid bases to obtain the desired results.

"This, I repeat, has been one of the basic elements which has always brought the best results.

"This process is necessary, particularly in a specialty like our own in which the cohesiveness of our personnel and the precision of their actions are of decisive importance.

"The importance of communications is set forth in our regulations which state that without communications there is no command and without command there is no troop leadership."

At the end of the period specified for the class exercise, the teams prepare to return to base.

They still have a considerable period of training before them during which, as in this technical training class, the communications personnel will be able to demonstrate their expertise and skill in the operation of the technical equipment which the Revolution has placed in their hands for defense. They, like all officers, sergeants, soldiers and civilian workers of our FAR, are ready to upgrade their training as a proper way to improve the capabilities and combat readiness of our units, which are ever prepared to inflict the most resounding defeat upon the imperialist enemy, should he carry out his frantic threats of aggression.

8143

CSO: 3010/560

CURRENT TREND OF LITERARY CRITICISM IN COUNTRY SEEN AS WEAK

Havana EL CAIMAN BARBUDO in Spanish Nov 81 pp 14-15

[Article by Leonardo Padura]

[Text] To some people it will perhaps seem pedantic and even unnecessary to return once more to a subject about which so much has already been said, but it also appears indisputable that the current alarming state of literary and artistic criticism in Cuba forces one daily to deep reflection and profound analysis of the causes of what Juan Marinello has called, getting to the heart of the matter, "poverty."

And it is very true, in the first place, that we always come to the final conclusion that our literary and artistic criticism lies gravely wounded, and even more so if we take into account the remarkable national tradition in that field, ranging from such figures as Marti, Pineyro and Varona to Mirta Aguirre, Portuondo and Marinello himself, the latter three illuminated by the Marxist-Leninist concept of artistic work.

It is also true that bold and sometimes very productive efforts are being made to overcome this difficult situation, among which we should mention the dialogues on criticism and literature organized by the Saiz Brothers Brigade and the one to be sponsored in the near future by the Ministry of Culture.

However, it is no less evident that our criticism--especially what appears in our magazines--continues to show a lack of rigor and a notable capacity for camaraderie (the case of the police novel should not be understood as exceptional), which more or less points up the fact that critics and creators, in the long run, belong to the same union and attend the same receptions.

Impressionistic opinions and the absence of any proper and perfectly demonstrable specialized training characterize a good percentage of the "critical" reviews and commentaries we read today. Lines and lines in which nothing is said and not a single, solitary esthetic criterion is used; in which, finally, nothing is either judged or valued because, actually, every book published, every exhibition, every premiere is discussed, but all the critical opinions which should sustain the discussion are omitted, and even worse at a time like this, forged on the paths of a superior scientific ideology and capable of offering the critic the most enviable of theoretic instruments.

However, this situation did not arise in a vacuum, nor from some dreadful plot bent on not making any criticism, but rather it has, like any social phenomenon, more or less definite causes which have encouraged its development.

Formation and Potential of Criticism

One of the factors which has contributed most decisively to the pauperization of our present criticism is the lack of academic and cultural training and of up-to-date information on the part of those who are writing literary criticism today.

A few years ago, referring precisely to that situation, Juan Marinello asserted: "A critic who is not on a level--and I am tempted to say above that level--with the general information and culture required by his times is inconceivable at any time, but more so at the present time. Otherwise he would soon be on the shaky ground of unhappy paraphrasing or of reporting which is neither outstanding or committed."

And what concerned Marinello continues to be the grayest cloud on our horizon. As one may easily prove, many of the present critics have graduated from some of the humanities specialties of our universities (journalism, art history, philology) and, in a lesser measure, from some of the country's many art schools.

Nevertheless, that fact places us in a highly deceptive situation, since, although they enjoy the undoubted support which a university degree represents, those graduates are not fully capable of undertaking the job of critic, in all its seriousness and with the theoretical foundation they must have, since they were not trained objectively for the difficult task of making public judgments and evaluations.

One quite good example is offered by graduates of the most important philological specialties (Cuban and Hispano-American literature), from among whom, it was to be hoped, would come those charged with the task of wiping out the poverty which survives in this field. But this is not happening--at least in the overall sense --because rather than a certain vocation for criticism, those specialists have historiographic and very general training, which permits them to research, identify and evaluate, but it does not arm them sufficiently to enter into the crux of the most immediate problems of our creative work and, of course, to reflect it in the most adequate way, it goes without saying, correctly written. The most obvious case in point is perhaps those courses with such promising titles as "Literary Criticism and Theory," which are so jealously reserved to philologists for the closing stages of their educational careers and which then, without exaggeration, prove to be a grand fiasco, particularly the "literary criticism." Thus the course turns out to be one that does not teach, in tune with the times, what literary criticism should be or how it should be done and becomes, in fact, a simple "Theory of Literary Criticism"--certainly a rather dubious course.

But in spite of all this, these graduates are, in our opinion, those best trained to work in the field of literary criticism, even though their final training must be acquired along the way. However, it happens that an astonishing percentage of them are placed in cultural work of another sort, and someone who could have been a critic or researcher generally becomes something else

The journalism course is the same; one learns endless techniques, the basic standards of the job and even how one should write, but the course simply does not

teach the student anything about what he should write, and even less in a field as complex and strigent as art and literature.

All those circumstances, naturally, are not isolated from such elements as creative capacity, talent, the necessary commitment the work demands and the individual potential to make critical evaluations, but rather they are very much related to these factors, determining, occasionally, that some who are made of the stuff of critics do take the ecstatic path of the saints and eventually come to adorn altars.

It is known, in addition, that a true critic is not formed in 5 years of study and with a more or less efficient and sound curriculum, but that his maturity is the result of a long process of apprenticeship which must also be supported by knowledge of the social and cultural particulars of his time and a substantial level of general and specialized knowledge.

And there is little to be said with respect to that specialized knowledge; it is sufficient only to recall that many of the important studies made in other socialist countries are unknown here and, simply, they could be of immeasurable use to us.

Writing, Research and Time

While the current situation of criticism in our magazines is truly difficult, it is not exactly satisfactory in the field of writing and research, either. Nobody can deny, in the first place, how much progress has been made in this sector, particularly at a time when we are identifying, from an adequate ideological and social perspective, the most important processes of our national culture, as specified in basic and explanatory texts.

But, we wonder: how many urgent studies remain to be done? We could recite a dozen, just off the top of our head. However, the causes of this phenomenon are very different from those noted in connection with criticism, and they are due in good measure to our situation as an economically underdeveloped country which is devoting its greatest efforts to the technical and industrial advancement of a system which, in turn, must divert substantial effort toward social sectors that cannot be put off, among them of course, cultural activity in its broadest sense.

It is not a question, then, of demanding spectacular progress and the random creation of centers for artistic and literary research endowed with fabulous budgets, which produce few economic benefits.

It means that, outside of the establishment researchers--to give them a name and to add that they scarcely make themselves felt--there are few who can avoid the pitfalls represented by the research process itself, which, as such, demands dedication and time for investigation, reading and careful study, which many do not have.

This situation is reflected particularly among professors of higher and specialized education, whose names appear very frequently as heading some research project which, perhaps, was even required for the course they are teaching.

However, the most alarming case is that of those cursory and superficial which, as a Manichean excuse, carry such self-justifying titles as "Brief Review...,"

"Panorama..." and "Approaches to..." and even become consultative tests for university students, who thus lose the chance to dialogue or to do a more thorough and constructive analysis on their own.

What To Do?

In the context of contemporary Cuban life, already entering the third decade of the revolutionary process, we are doubtless in the best of circumstances to overcome once and for all the poor state of literary and artistic criticism in a country with such a strong cultural development.

It is not easy to offer solutions; but it is useful to point out that critics, researchers and writers, as well as those agencies related with this work in any way, must make people aware, definitely, of the incompatibility of this phenomenon and contribute jointly to its necessary defeat.

The fact is that applying rigor and seriousness to criticism does not require either budgets or institutional laws, nor does the creation of more adequate mechanisms for giving opportunity for expression to those who exercise the office of critic.

The task is neither impossible nor extremely complex. If each one does his job better and dedicates his best efforts to fighting, without compassion, the proverbial poverty of literary criticism we are suffering, things will surely change for the better.

8735

CSO: 3010/469

BRIEFS

NEW MEXICAN AMBASSADOR--Juan Miralles Ostos, new Mexican ambassador to Ecuador has presented his credentials to President Oswaldo Hurtado. [PA191519 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Dec 81]

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH VENEZUELA--An energy cooperation agreement has been signed between the Venezuelan Institute of Petroleum Technology and the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation. Venezuelan Energy Minister Humberto Calderon said Venezuela will help Ecuador train personnel and establish a petroleum research institute. [PA191519 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Dec 81]

CSO: 3010/545

SANDINISM, FATHERLAND CANNOT BE SEPARATED

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Dec 81 pp 3, 5

[Article by Carlos Gallo Osejo]

[Text] The patriotism which the opponents to the revolution say they feel is little more than a feeling of proximity.

For conservatives and liberals patriotism has always been merely the struggle to gain control of the profits from the soil and trade. They want to guarantee for themselves the exploitation of the thousands of field workers.

When these political groups think of the fatherland they are only thinking of the land which is valuable to the extent that it provides them income.

Thus we find that the land, the language, the natural resources, our culture and the humble people of our fatherland have a common historical past. All these things which are considered national heritage were appropriated and dominated by the conservatives and the liberals who destroyed the close ties which should exist between the common heritage and the people.

The history of the last 150 years reminds us that our national heritage was appropriated by Chamorro, Cuadra Pasos, Zavala and Diaz who then put it up for sale. This struggle to take over the resources of the fatherland they wished to portray as a struggle for the fatherland and the nation when in fact it was merely a struggle to see who would sell it for the best price.

In view of these facts and in response to the 1926 intervention, Sandinism emerged as a broad social movement which included in its political philosophy a concept of the fatherland and a feeling of patriotism radically different from "the feeling for income from the land or profits from trade" which the oligarchs and the landholders felt.

The fundamental demand of Sandinism was to keep the fatherland free. Sandinism appealed to the patriotism of the workers to expel the interventionists. The conservatives and the liberals sought the aid of the North American interventionists so as to divide among themselves the national heritage and subjugate the fatherland.

We must recall these facts to demonstrate historically why Sandinism represents our nationality.

Today Sandinism is not only a vanguard political organization but is also an instance of the organization of the people and is a social movement representing our nationality.

The press and the other political groups would like the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] to be just a party or just Sandinism in general but not the two at the same time.

It is worth emphasizing that in our country's situation--under siege and attack by imperialism--Sandinism is the symbol of our nation; it is synonymous with being Nicaraguan. It is the essence of anti-imperialism and anti-interventionism. Who, if not the Sandinists, confronted, resisted and fought the imperialist aggressor? The conservatives did not do so, nor did the liberals. It was the Sandinists who reclaimed the dignity of the fatherland, not the others.

In contrast with what happened in the oppressive past when the rulers arbitrarily usurped the nation's interests because they did not represent the interests of the people as a whole, it was the Sandinists who gave our historic national interests their proper due, because they represent the interests of the workers, the peasants, the students and the professionals who are in the majority.

The fatherland and Sandinism cannot be separated. A worthy and free fatherland can exist only as long as the Sandinists are in power. A free fatherland means to Nicaraguans a political, economic and social regime which develops along the lines of social justice, self-determination, national sovereignty and freedom. The Sandinists reclaim these principles for the fatherland, thus Sandinism and the fatherland cannot be separated.

Nicaraguans are carrying out Sandino's words when he said, "Our army is preparing to take over the reins of national power and will then proceed to organize great cooperatives of workers and peasants who will exploit our natural wealth in behalf of the Nicaraguan family as a whole."

This statement is our basis for having the People's Army, the police, the mass organizations and the instruments of power call themselves Sandinists. The Sandinist emblem on all these institutions expressing the people's power are legitimate; nothing has been usurped. History has thus shown:

--Sandinism cannot be separated from the nation.

--Nationalism in a nation such as ours, which has been subjected to continuous aggression by imperialism must be revolutionary and anti-imperialist in order to be authentic. This is expressed solely by Sandinism.

--Sandinism is synonymous with being Nicaraguan.

--Sandinism is an eminently popular value.

The situation is clear. First it was asked why the army, the police and the news media call themselves Sandinists. Then it was asked why Sandinism is the heritage of the FSLN. Then they attempted to steal from Sandinism its class and anti-imperialist nature. Now they are attempting to separate Sandinism from the fatherland and nationalism.

We wonder if these complaints of LA PRENSA Inc. are an elegant way of justifying cowardliness with regard to defense.

9204

CSO: 3010/514

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY ISSUES DECLARATION

Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 7 Dec 81 pp 1, 10

[Text] The women attending the First Constituent Assembly of the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Association of Nicaraguan Women (AMNLAE) elected members to their National Executive Committee while repeating euphorically the slogans "AMPRONAC [National Association of Women Concerned With the Nation's Problems] yesterday, AMNLAE today and Sandinists forever" and "on our knees only to shoot a rifle."

Later they unanimously approved a Declaration of Principles and Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, who brought greetings from the Revolutionary Government to the fighting women of Nicaragua, spoke at the conclusion.

The Declaration

"In the historic undertaking of the people to create a new society, AMNLAE guarantees its participation in indissoluble unity with the people and its vanguard, standing firmly on principles sacred to our organization: on revolutionary humanism and on Sandinism which is identified with love for the people, our country and the revolution." Thus reads one of the paragraphs of the preamble of the Declaration of Principles of this organization.

AMNLAE declares that it will be linked to the fight for justice, peace and happiness which will be the basis of the new Nicaraguan society.

It also emphasizes its recognition and adoption of the fundamental principles of the Sandinist People's Revolution, committing itself to defend them on all fronts.

It recognizes the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] as the undisputed vanguard which led the people to their freedom and which is now leading them toward the construction of a new society. It also recognizes the JGRN [National Reconstruction Government Junta] as an instrument capable of directing the administrative policy of the nation toward the consolidation of a system of democratic government.

It also recognizes the patriotic character of the Sandinist Armed Forces, dedicated to the defense of the people's democratic rights.

AMNLAE will work continuously and systematically to incorporate women into all the tasks of the revolution, and will of course seek to overcome all obstacles to women's equality in our society.

The organization identifies itself with the struggles of the peoples of the world who seek full independence from imperialism and colonialism and who are struggling against racism and in behalf of universal peace.

In conclusion the members ratify AMNLAE's role as an organization of Nicaraguan women. Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the JGRN, began his speech by delivering greetings from the Revolutionary Government to the women who were elected to the Executive Committee of AMNLAE.

Later he explained in general terms the problems the revolution is facing and those which will come up next year. He said however that if he were to speak of achievements, he would stress the consolidation of the revolutionary state, the armed forces and the mass organizations, which are the cornerstone for the consolidation of the people's power.

He said that this is not power in the abstract, nor is it the power of a greedy minority such as the one which impoverished Nicaragua, but it is the power of justice, of the workers.

Joint Declaration

Three women--a Salvadoran, a Guatemalan and a Mexican--read statements signed by the 11 international delegations attending the Constitutional Assembly of AMNLAE.

The Salvadoran read a statement denouncing the arrest by the Argentine military of Fany Edelman, president of the Union of Argentine Women and vice president of the Women's International Democratic Federation [WIDF].

The communique states that the international delegations indignantly protest the detention of the Argentine woman who for years has been fighting for the equality of women and it demands of the Argentine military government her prompt release.

The Mexican representative read a communique deploring the death of Cuban teacher Aguedo Morales Reina, who was cravenly assassinated. She said that this assassination is the result of the Reagan administration's aggressive policy against Cuba and Nicaragua.

The Guatemalan read a communique thanking AMNLAE for inviting them to this convention. She stressed AMNLAE's important role in the development and progress of the revolution and said that after this meeting their bonds of friendship and brotherhood will be stronger.

Executive Committee

The following persons were elected to the Executive Committee by the 340 delegates to the AMNLAE assembly: Doris Tijerino Haslan, honorary chairman. She was not present because she is in the mountains pursuing counterrevolutionary bands.

Glenda Monterrey, secretary general. She was confirmed in this position because of her capable performance in this post and because of her revolutionary qualities.

The other members of the Executive Committee are Ruth Marcenaro, Angela Rosa Acevedo, Esmeralda Davila, Ivonne Siu, Marta Henriquez, Miriam Davila and Mercedes Mejia.

Entertainment was provided at the closing ceremonies by the musical groups "Ernesto Che Guevara" of Mercado Oriental and "Canto Nuevo" of Bolivia.

9204

CSO: 3010/514

PCU LEADER DISCUSSES URUGUAYAN REFORMS

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish Nov 81 pp 3-4

[Interview with Rodney Arismendi, First Secretary of the Communist Party of Uruguay, by Livia Agacino; date and place not given]

[Text] Early last July, the military government of Uruguay suddenly announced the renewal of dialogue with sectors of the traditional National and Colorado political parties and certain representatives of the small Radical Civic Union. At the same time, they announced the new political plan drawn up by the military hierarchy, of which the then president, Aparicio Mendez, was informed only a few hours before talks began between the military and the political parties. Under that plan, retired Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez, a man with substantial influence in the armed forces, became president on 1 September, beginning a so-called transition government which, supposedly, will turn over power to a civilian government.

This new program and its characteristics were discussed for PRISMA by the first secretary of the Communist Party of Uruguay, Rodney Arismendi.

[Question] Under what political circumstances did the presidential changeover take place in Uruguay?

[Answer] Within a context which accentuated political mobility, as a result of the November, 1980 plebiscite, which was a national expression, a synthesis, of the opposition to the regime throughout all these years and at the same time a factor in the launching of new political processes demonstrating the people's desire for change; of the failure of the dictatorship and repudiation of its repressive brutality and its economic policy, of its internal isolation and the fact that it has been condemned the world over.

With the plebiscite, the timetable to institutionalize the regime was thrown off schedule. Afterward, resistance, protest and a combination of events continued to develop into a minimal program of the opposition forces. It became more evident to everyone that unless steps are taken toward a true democratic opening, there will be no solution to the crisis.

All this had its effect on the armed forces, sharpening their differences, which led to the isolation of those high-ranking officers who were clearly fascist-oriented and corrupt and also to the downfall of theories such as those of Lt Gen Luis Queirolo to the effect that "you don't impose conditions on the victors."

The protest became deeper, political gains were made--particularly by the main sectors of the traditional parties--, new press publications were established, which reflect better the opinions of those sectors, and all of this on the great foundation of the consistent struggle of the working class and the people.

[Question] Some have expressed the opinion that in effect nothing has changed.

[Answer] In my opinion, it is erroneous to say that nothing is happening or that we are only seeing a maneuver or a variation of the timetable. Certainly there are military forces, the most reactionary, and sectors which have prospered--from crime or in legal ways--, which oppose any progressive step or who at most accept small concessions. Also, it is no step toward a real opening to have the president named by the armed forces for an excessive term; nor the members of the cabinet, where there are ministers such as the economy and finance ministers, whose policy benefits only the banks and foreign capital and has caused the current economic and social crisis--; nor the Council of State, whose members are non-representative and some of whom even have a shady past.

But it is a mistake to believe that nothing is happening. We are seeing certain changes, limited and insufficient concessions, to be sure, but which the regime has found itself forced to grant because of the struggle and sacrifices of the working class and the attitude of other sectors.

To think that nothing is happening is to fail to recognize the enormous strength of the people and the struggle which has been going on all these years. This is the decisive factor in political mobility with which the regime has had to make political compromises.

[Question] What is the significance of the appointment of Gregorio Alvarez, and what will constitute measures toward a true opening?

[Answer] The appointment of Lieutenant General Alvarez is in itself a significant move. This is not the designation of a puppet, but of a man who is beginning to have a certain amount of authority. Of course, one should not have any expectations or illusions; it remains to be seen how he handles the government. The essential thing is the political process continues to be what the people do--the big opposition sectors, the working class, the students and the parties: National and Colorado and those of the Broad Front.

Everything hinges on unity and agreement among all the forces. In particular we must emphasize the role of those who have had to act in absolute clandestinity, especially our own party. And the measure of any opening is basic: the release of political prisoners, abolishment of exile, the free activity of political parties and of union and people's organizations, the return of exiles and the reestablishment of freedom and rights for all. That is the other face of what has been happening in these years of dictatorship.

The Democratization Process

[Question] Plans for democratization have been announced...

[Answer] In that area, the measures adopted thus far are limited. As for the

exiles, although some outstanding people have been rehabilitated, this has not extended to the most representative personalities, genuine leaders of the traditional parties, and some 8,000 citizens are still in exile. The process toward democratization is not a question of words or longterm promises.

President Alvarez, in effect, referred in his speech to the desire for an opening, for dialogue and for returning the judiciary to its proper role; to the right to vote and even to acceptance of the plebiscite. One might even understand, when regulating the right to strike is mentioned, that union activities are being considered. But it is clear that regulation must not be imposed as a means for keeping the union movement shackled without responding to the workers' demands and those of the International Labor Organization.

In other words, everything requires actions which demonstrates that the sovereign will of the people is being respected, as all valid political forces and very broad social sectors, from the wage-earner to the big farm producers, are demanding with one voice.

Everyone agrees, from his own point of view, on demanding a true reestablishment of freedoms and rights and a new economic program. Also admitted in the president's speech was the need for a new constitution. It is understood that what was rejected in November cannot be repeated, nor can the fascist institutional decrees be maintained. Another step to the opening would be the calling of an authentic constitutional assembly, instead of believing--as some have said--that the irrelevant Council of State, although politically-affiliated persons have been added to it, but not through election by the parties or the people, can assume that function. And this cannot wait until 1985.

[Question] The new president expressed his opposition to Marxism-Leninism and the activity of the Marxists...

[Answer] Of course that is an opinion. It represents the idea of sectors which hold important positions. It is known that all democrats, Marxist or not, are lumped into that category. But, when one takes it upon himself to speak on behalf of the nation, one cannot proclaim an ideological crusade against legitimate trends, rooted in the national situation and formed in the nation, which make up the democratic tradition.

One cannot isolate the communists, socialists and others without abdicating the democratic proposals which have been made. This has been pointed out by, for example, the National Party, outstanding Colorado leaders like Jorge Battle, Flores Mora, the Herrerist leader, Silveira Zabala, the weekly publications OPINAR, LA DEMOCRACIA and others. To be Marxist or not--that is a struggle between ideas, and it is not carried on by decree or repression. And the ideological struggle is a part of the best of Uruguayan democratic traditions. Looking at the statements in their entirety, it is obvious that they are facing the realities of the struggle, the accusations, the position of the parties, the unions, and other sectors. And they are limited. But, let us remember, the measure of all things is in events. These will tell whether there is to be a true opening, or whether the essentials of a system which has bloodied the country and isolated it internationally are going to be maintained.

There will be no true opening without the release of prisoners, amnesty to exiles and the rehabilitation of parties and organizations. And any attempt at repression is condemned to failure, as proved by all these years and even by the recognition that a transition toward democracy is being started to bring us out of the shadows.

We communists know we are well established in Uruguayan life, in the democratic tradition, and nobody can deprecate the working class and the ideas of the progressive forces. The future depends on the actions of the people, on unity and agreement and also on the international action of those who are clamoring for real democratization in Uruguay.

In all, it would be false to say that everything is the same. The structure of the dictatorship has been breached. The people's struggle has obtained its first generally important results.

The basic guarantees along the way to the reestablishment of democracy lie in the intensification of that struggle, in the unity and agreement of all the people.

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